

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 92-16 (As Amended)

Introduced by Council President Wilson at the request of the County Executive
Legislative Day No. 92-5 Date February 11, 1992

AN ACT to propose an amendment to Article V, Budget and Finance, of the Harford County Charter, as amended, by repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Section 524, Indebtedness, to allow for a more flexible financial structure so that the County can enter into land installment ~~purchase contracts~~ to purchase easements for agricultural land preservation purposes, and to require the submission of this amendment to the legally qualified voters of Harford County for their adoption or rejection, in accordance with Section 905 of the Harford County Charter.

By the Council, February 11, 1992

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled
on: March 10, 1992
at: 6:00 P.M.

By Order: Doris Paulsen, Secretary
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PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on March 10, 1992, and concluded on, March 10, 1992

Doris Paulsen, Secretary
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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

1 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford
2 County, Maryland, that Section 524, Indebtedness, of Article V,
3 Budget and Finance, of the Harford County Charter, as amended, be,
4 and it is hereby, repealed and reenacted with amendments, all to
5 read as follows:

6 Article V. Budget and Finance.

7 Section 524. Indebtedness.

8 (a) The County may incur debt. No indebtedness for a term of more
9 than one year shall be incurred by the County to meet current
10 operating expenses. All County indebtedness for a term in
11 excess of one year shall be on a serial maturity plan
12 providing for the maturity of the series in consecutive annual
13 installments, no one of which shall be less than fifty percent
14 of the amount of any other installment of the series; and the
15 last installment of the series shall become due not later than
16 thirty years after the date of issuance. THE COUNTY MAY,
17 HOWEVER, ENTER INTO INSTALLMENT ~~LAND PURCHASE~~ CONTRACTS TO
18 PURCHASE EASEMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION
19 PURPOSES, IN WHICH A VARIETY OF INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLANS MAY
20 BE USED FOR PAYMENT OF THE ~~DEBT. THE 50% DEBT,~~ AND SUCH
21 CONTRACTS SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE FIFTY PERCENT LIMITATION
22 PROVIDED FOR HEREIN SHALL NOT APPLY. THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF
23 REVENUE FOR THE REPAYMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS INCURRED TO PURCHASE
24 EASEMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION PURPOSES SHALL
25 BE A TRANSFER TAX ON INSTRUMENTS OF WRITING WHICH CONVEY TITLE
26 TO, OR A LEASEHOLD INTEREST IN, REAL PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY.

AS AMENDED

1 (b) If at any time the Council shall have failed to appropriate
2 and to make available sufficient funds to provide for the
3 timely payment of the interest and principal then due upon all
4 County indebtedness, it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to
5 pay, or to make available for payment, to the holders of such
6 indebtedness from the first revenues thereafter received
7 applicable to the general funds of the County, a sum equal to
8 such interest and principal.

9 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, that before this Act
10 becomes effective, it shall be submitted to a Referendum of the
11 legally qualified voters of Harford County in accordance with
12 Section 905 of the Charter of Harford County, Maryland, at the
13 General Election to be held in November 1992. There shall be
14 printed on the ballots or ballot labels used at this election the
15 title a brief summary in understandable language of the purpose of
16 this Act, and underneath the ~~title~~ summary, on separate lines, a
17 square or box to the right of and opposite the words, "For _____,"
18 and a corresponding square or box to the right of and opposite the
19 words "Against _____," so that each voter may vote for or against
20 the provisions of this Act. If a majority of the votes cast in the
21 election are "For _____," the provisions of this Act shall become
22 effective from and after the thirtieth (30th) calendar day
23 following the election, but if a majority of the votes cast in the
24 election are "Against _____," the provisions of this Act shall be
25 of no effect and null and void.

26 Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted that, subject to the
27 provisions of Section 2 of this Act and for the sole purpose of

1 providing for the referendum therein required, this Act shall take
2 effect sixty (60) calendar days from the date it becomes law.

3 EFFECTIVE: Subject to the provisions of this Bill,
4 December 3, 1992
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BY THE COUNCIL

BILL NO. 92-16 As Amended

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 92-11 (April 14, 1992)

Failed of Passage: _____

By Order

Doris Poulsen, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for her approval this 16th day of April, 1992 at 3:00 o'clock P.M.

Doris Poulsen, Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

Eileen McLehman
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date April 27, 1992

APPROVED:

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, (No. 92-16 As Amended), having been approved by the County Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on April 27, 1992 for the purpose of providing for Referendum therein required and subject to the provisions of Section 2 and Section 3 of the Bill.

Doris Poulsen, Secretary

This Act, having been approved by a majority of the voters of Harford County, voting on the amendment (Question A) to the Charter of Harford County, Maryland, in General Election on November 3, 1992 stands effective December 3, 1992.

Doris Poulsen, Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: Subject to the provisions of this Bill, December 3, 1992.